THE CASE OF THE ISLAND of JAMAICA.

In Relation to their Privateers, and the Bonds given by ſeveral Inhabitants for them.

THE BONDS that are now laid before this Honourable Houſe, were given upon the Clauſe repealed the laſt Seſſions of Parliament. Mr. *Beckford* the Collector, hath Sued all the Bonds and obtain'd Judgments upon them, and put the Perſons bound (who are only Agents for the Sailers) to great Charges in their defence in the Courts there, and in their Application to the Governour and Her Majeſty for ſtay of Execution. The ſeverity of Mr. *Beckford* appears, by his own Account before this Honourable Houſe, three Perſons are bound in 10000 *l.* each, where there is not above 100 *l.* due, and others in 2000 *l.* where, by his own Account there is but 18 *l.* due, and ſo in proportion for all the reſt.

THE Sailers, who are principally intereſted in the Diſcharge of theſe Bonds, have deſerted the Iſland, at leaſt two Thouſand in Number, and may in Time turn Pirates, if not ſpeedily reclaimed.

Notwithſtanding the Bonds were taken for ſuch very great Sums, yet, by the Collectors own Accounts, there is but Nine Thouſand odd Pounds due to Her Majeſty, and theſe Duties, with thoſe of the Iſland, were ſo high, that they ſometimes exceeded the Value of the Prize, Ship and Goods, and brought the *Captors* in Debt.

THE Charge of Store-houſes, and the Collectors Commiſſion at 5 *l. per Cent*, and Exchange of 35 *l. per Cent.* being deducted, this will not amount to above 5000 *l. Sterling.*

WHEREFORE, It is humbly prayed theſe Bonds may be diſcharged, for the benefit of the Sailers, to encourage their return to the Iſland of Jamaica, *which is very much weakned by ſo conſiderable a Deſertion of their Seafaring People and Inhabitants, to the great decay of Trade and Impoveriſhment of that Iſland.*

THE CASE OF THE *Island of* Jamaica,

In Relation to their Privateers, and the Bonds given by several Inhabitants for them.